

CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I)

5 M₁-L₁-(Val-Arg-Leu-Pro-Pro-Pro)_x-L₂-M₂
 (I)

or a pharmaceutically or a biologically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Val is L-Val or D-Val;

10 Arg is L-Arg, D-Arg or L-(N-methyl)Arg;

Pro is L-Pro or D-Pro;

Leu is L-Leu or D-Leu;

x is an integer from 1 to 20;

15 L₁ and L₂ are chemical linkers, which are identical or different, present or absent;

M₁ and M₂ are pharmacologically and/or biologically active moieties, which are identical or different, present or absent; and

the bond between L_1 and M_1 and the bond between L_2 and M_2 are of any of the known chemical natures, including covalent and ionic.

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2. The compound according to claim 1, wherein chemical linkers are independently selected from peptide sequences up to 10 amino acid residues.

25 3. The compound according to claim 1, wherein
pharmacologically and/or biologically active moieties are active
pharmaceutical ingredients, nucleic acids, peptide nucleic acids,
peptides, proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, sterols, nanoparticles,
antibodies, dyes or probes.

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4. The compound according to any of the claims 1-3, wherein x is from 1 to 10.

5. The compound according to claim 4, wherein x is from 1 to 3.

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6. The compound according to claim 5, wherein x is 3.

7. The compound according to claim 1, wherein L_1 , L_2 , M_1 and M_2 are all absent and, consequently the compound of formula (I) is (Val-Arg-Leu-Pro-Pro-Pro) $_x$.

5 8. The compound according to claim 7, wherein x is 3.

9. The compound according to claim 7, having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1-6.

10 10. Use of the compound as defined in any of the claims 7-9 as cell penetrating carrier.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound defined in any of the claims 1-6,
15 together with appropriate amounts of pharmaceutical excipients.

12. A cosmetic composition comprising a cosmetically effective amount of the compound defined in any of the claims 1-6, together with appropriate amounts of cosmetic excipients.

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